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Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 032796-101

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	)	
	)	
Lynn A. DOUCETTE-STAMM et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1656
	)	
Application No.: 10/092,411	)	Examiner: unassigned
	)	
Filed: March 7, 2002	)	Confirmation No.: 9046
	)	
For: NUCLEIC ACID AND AMINO	)	
ACID SEQUENCES RELATING TO	)	
STAPHYLOCOCCUS EPIDERMIDIS	)	
FOR DIAGNOSTICS AND	)	
THERAPEUTICS	)	

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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OCT 09 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits and in response to the Notice to Comply with the Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequences and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures mailed April 22, 2002, Applicants hereby submit the following Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application. A Petition requesting a two-month extension of time and the corresponding petition fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(2) accompany this Preliminary Amendment which is being filed on its due date of August 22, 2002. Please amend the application as follows:

**AMENDMENTS UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115**

***In the Specification:***

Please replace the Specification filed on March 7, 2002 with the attached amended substitute Specification.